



City of San Diego
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Building Newsletter 10-7

Security Grilles or Gates

Interpretations of State and Local Building Codes
1994 Uniform Building Code: Chapter 10
Revision Date: January 1996

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I. Doors Used as Required Exits

Section 1004.8 of the Uniform Building Code specifies that revolving, sliding and overhead doors shall not be used as required exits.

II. Exceptions

In Group M Occupancies (stores and shops only), horizontal sliding or vertical rolling security grilles or gates which are a part of a required means of egress may be approved provided they conform to the following:

- A. Grilles or gates must remain secured in the fully open position until all customers have left the premises.
- B. A sign shall be posted on each grille or gate stating "This gate/grille to remain fully open until all cus-

tomers have left the premises." The sign must be permanently attached to the gate or its hardware and must be visible from the interior of the store. The sign shall be in letters not less than one-inch-high on a contrasting background and must be visible when the gate is in a closed or partially closed position.

- C. Grilles or gates shall not be closed when more than 10 persons are occupying spaces served by a single exit or more than 50 persons are occupying spaces served by more than one exit.
- D. Grilles or gates shall be openable from within, without the use of any special knowledge or effort.
- E. When two or more exits are required, not more than one-half of the exits may be equipped with such grilles or gates. See also Section 404.4.8 for malls.